

EARLY DAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

(What do you remember of the early day school teachers? That first came into this community?)

Well I know you didn't have to have much education. (laughter)

(Well that's what I suspicioned that -- in those --)

I went to the Seminary. That's where I met the Tyners. And the school, you know, they changed schools. They put the girls over in the old Seminary. They say they have nice park or something over there now. And so when the school burned, I came home. And I spent as many years as I could at Chelsea. Then I went down there. And when it came back, all I had to do was take the examination. And if I passed it I got a job. The first certificate I had was a third grade certificate.

(Well.)

You know you could renew it. It was good for two years. Well, in the summer time I'd go to school. And the next time I took the examination, it was for the second grade. And it was good for four years. So on and so on.

And finally I got my life certificate. But they have done away with that now.

(It is true they had some kind of a college or academy at Chelsea at one time?)

That's OMA, there at Claremore. They had an old red brick where we used to go to school when we were little kids. They tore that down and rebuilt it.

It's nice and modern as it can be.

(Well Chelsea does have some modern facilities.)

As I said, I went to Chelsea school. Several families went over there. The Wards and The Tuckers, I don't know where she come from. I tell you, until they began to prorate the wheat crop and the ground, the government took all that into soil banks and all that you know. Now we were in the Farmers Machinery business in Claremore. And we had power machinery. You know when